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GIVEN BY

Hon. Samuel Saltuck.

(1900)
March 29, 1915

CITY OF BOSTON.

Common Council. — *No.* 7....1835.

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In Common Council, March 12, 1835.

The following Report and Order were read, laid on the table, and, together with the accompanying documents, ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

RICHARD G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

The Standing Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, who were "instructed to make an examination into the present condition of the House of Industry, particularly in relation to its accomodation and fitness to the wants and circumstances of the inmates, in what manner the said inmates are generally classified, and what proportion are foreign paupers;" also,

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"to consider and report, previously to the passage of the annual appropriations, if the said House will require any alterations or additions, during the present municipal year," beg leave to

REPORT IN PART.

The Committee have regarded it as their duty to give an early attention to the several important matters referred to them; and in their investigations they have been essentially aided by the very thorough and able report of their predecessors, as well as by the suggestions of the Directors and Superintendent of the Institution. An interesting communication from the gentleman last referred to, made in answer to questions proposed by the Committee, accompanies this Report.

There were in the House of Industry on the first day of March,

352 white Males,
213 white Females,
16 colored Males,
20 colored Females.

Total, 601

Of this number,

167 are natives of Boston,
36 are from other towns in this state,
62 are from other states;

265 of American origin,
336 of Foreign origin.

The number of Foreigners admitted into this Institution, is regularly and constantly increasing; and un-

less some effective means can be devised to prevent the introduction of paupers from abroad, to be supported by the public bounty, the evil must soon become intolerable. The number of foreigners admitted into the House of Industry, during each of the last five years has been as follows :—

1830	291
1831	380
1832	405
1833	604
1834	631

It appears from the "Statistics of the House of Industry for the year 1834," a copy of which accompanies this report, that, during the year, 1383 individuals were admitted or re-admitted into the House; of whom 542 were Americans, and 841 were foreigners. Of the Americans, only 268 were natives of Boston.

Your Committee fully concur with their predecessors of the last year in the opinion, that "the inducements offered by our Almshouses, and the slight restraints imposed upon ship masters, have increased the emigration to this country of a large proportion of the foreign paupers, with whom we are burthened." It is believed, on good authority, that Parishes have paid the passages of their poor to this country, to free themselves from their support.

In the construction and arrangement of the apartments in the House of Industry, there are many defects, which demand the immediate attention of the City Government. The main building is, in most respects, badly designed, and ill adapted to the pur-

poses for which it was intended. It is not easily supervised, cannot be warmed and ventilated in a thorough and economical manner, and does not admit of a proper classification of the inmates.

The kitchen is a large common room in the centre of the basement story, accessible on all sides. This one room serves for the cook shop, bake house, laundry, ironing and drying rooms for at least 600 inmates. It also contains the pump most used, and the boilers for hot water. The steams arising from the various operations carried on in this room, are mingled and diffused through the building, creating an offensive and unwholesome atmosphere. But the worst evil is the immoral influence of bringing into familiar intercourse great numbers of both sexes. The cooking and baking are done by men, the washing and ironing by women. In this kitchen, your Committee are assured, plans of mischief are made, elopements of dissolute men and women are agreed on, food and clothing are stolen, the young and inexperienced in mischief receive instruction from the older, who have acquired experience in various alms houses and prisons; and, in a few instances, the number of inmates has been increased by the fruits of illicit intercourse.

The dining room for the men is not large enough by about one third. Tables are, consequently, set in various parts of the House, producing much confusion, inconvenience and waste.

To remedy these evils and some others not yet referred to, your Committee recommend, that the following alterations of the House of Industry be undertaken as soon as the season will permit.

First, That an additional building 140 feet long and 25 feet wide, one story high, be erected in the rear of the main building, and attached to it. In this building it is proposed to have a large dining hall and cook room, to be occupied by the men; and a large wash room, a place for ironing and a drying room, to be occupied by the women.

Second, That the greater part of the present kitchen be converted into a store room for clothes, suitably fitted up with shelves, &c. Such a room is very much needed. At present, the clothing is kept in three or four small rooms, remote from each other; and in bags and bundles in the sleeping rooms of the inmates. In the room proposed, the women may be required to work under the eye of the Overseer of the clothing department.

Third, that the present dining room for the men be converted into a bake room and tailor's shop.

Some alterations in the basement story of the main building, which the Committee think would be useful, are indicated in the accompanying plans.

Your Committee also recommend, That a rain water cistern, to contain not less than a hundred hogsheads, be constructed near the wash room.

That another well be dug near the cook room.

That the great drain in front of the house be given up, and a new one made in the rear.

That the yards for drying clothes, and for the use of the insane subjects, be enlarged.

And that, in all cases where it is practicable, two rooms occupied by female inmates, be thrown into one, to be warmed by a single stove instead of two wood fires.

Your Committee have conferred with the Directors of the House of Industry, relative to the alterations and additions here proposed; and the plans and estimate of the architect are herewith submitted. It will be seen that the estimated expense of these improvements is $3703 72 in addition to the labor which may be performed by the inmates of the House.

Your Committee think that the inmates of the House of Industry are classified as well as the present arrangements of the House will permit. The children are kept entirely separate from the adults. The building recently erected, called the "Children's Asylum," is well adapted to the purposes for which it was intended. A more convenient and a better arranged building could not be desired. The black and white inmates are, in general, kept separate from each other. Buildings remote from each other are appropriated to the insane of different sexes. And should the improvements recommended in this report, be made by the City Council, the laboring males and females will be wholly separated. Your Committee are, however, fully of the opinion, that a more marked distinction should be made between the unfortunate and the vicious poor. They should not be compelled to associate together, under any circumstances. There should be a broad distinction in their accommodations, their diet, the labor required of them, and their general treatment. While the former class should experience that sympathy and kindness, which would tend to make them forget their misfortunes, the latter should be taught to

regard the House of Industry rather as a place of punishment to be avoided, than as an asylum to be sought. Let this just discrimination be carefully made, and this course of treatment rigidly followed, and a multitude of sturdy paupers, who now regard the House of Industry as their home, would cease to depend upon public charity for their support.

Your Committee regard the want of proper and sufficient employment for the inmates of the House of Industry, as an evil of the first magnitude, and one which calls loudly for a remedy. It seems that all the females, who perform any labor, are engaged in the business of the House. No other employment, — no employment by which they *can earn any thing*, — is provided for them. There is not even a room for them to work in, if they had any work to do. It is true, the services of the more healthy and robust women, are needed in the ordinary affairs of so large an institution; but it is believed that even the aged and infirm, with proper conveniences for the purpose, might benefit both themselves and the House by contributing something towards their support.

With regard to the men, the state of things is not much better. Their principal employment is in picking oakum; "the net avails of which are small, averaging less than six cents a day for men's work, who are considered comparatively active." Your Committee are aware, that it is no easy matter to find suitable employment for paupers. The very fact that they *are* paupers, in this country, shows that they are imbecile either in body or mind or both.

Yet your Committee are decidedly of the opinion that, with proper arrangements, their labor may be rendered more regular and more productive. At least, such employments can fortunately be provided, as will prevent idle and vicious paupers from resorting to this Institution as a place of refuge from work and want.

In the alterations of the House, already suggested in this Report, a convenient work-room for the females, in which they will be under the care of an Overseer, is contemplated. To secure suitable employment for the males, not only in the House of Industry, but also for a portion of those in the House of Correction, your Committee unanimously recommend the making of land on the flats belonging to the City at South Boston. At the close of the last municipal year, a proposition was submitted to the Council, recommending " that a Sea Wall should be erected the next year, connecting with and similar to that in the rear of the House of Correction ; and that the grounds contiguous thereto, should be levelled and made to conform to the grounds in the rear of the House of Correction." By this operation, more than sixty-four thousand feet of land would be made, a valuable accommodation to these important institutions would be secured, and the very best kind of labor, for a portion of their inmates, would be provided; and, according to estimate, the whole expense to the City would not exceed twelve hundred dollars. But your Committee are of the opinion, that a much more extensive work should be undertaken. Regarding the kind of work, which the making of

this land would furnish, as well adapted to a portion of the inmates of both Houses, they earnestly call the attention of the Council to the subject. They are not prepared with plans and estimates for the extended work which they recommend; but they are entirely satisfied that, by a small annual appropriation, the City can provide the best kind of labor for the class of individuals referred to, and, at the same time, very much improve the condition of its Institutions at South Boston.

Your Committee therefore beg leave to offer for the consideration of the Council, the accompanying order.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of the Committee.

E. BAILEY, *Chairman.*

In Common Council, March 12, 1835.

Ordered, That a Committee of , to be joined, be appointed, to make the additions to, and alterations of, the House of Industry, proposed in this Report; also, to prepare and submit to the City Council plans and estimates for extending the sea-walls belonging to the City at South Boston.

INMATES OF THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY, MARCH 1, 1835.

White Males, - - - - -	352
Colored " - - - - -	16
White Females, - - - -	213
Colored " - - - - -	20
Total - - - - -	601
MALES over 12 years of age, natives of Boston, - - - - - -	74
Natives of other towns in Massachusetts, -	22
Natives of other States, - - -	28
Natives of foreign Countries, - - -	150
	274
FEMALES over 12, natives of Boston, -	74
Natives of other towns in Massachusetts, -	8
Natives of other States, - - -	19
Natives of Foreign Countries, - -	73
	174
CHILDREN under 12, whose parents belong to Boston, boys 12, girls 7, -	19
Of other towns in Massachusetts, boys 3, girls 3, - - - - - - -	6
Of other States, boys 8, girls 7, - -	15
Of Foreign Countries, boys 71, girls 42, -	113
	153

Of American origin, 265. Of Foreign origin 336

A large proportion of the Boston poor are aged, and have been many years in the House ; on the oth-

er hand, the great bulk of Foreigners are, comparatively, new comers.

CONDITION AND EMPLOYMENT OF MEN.

Idiots 19, Insane 16, - - - -	35
Aged, sick and too infirm to labor, - -	56
	91
Employed attending fires, - - -	2
Writing - - - -	1
Painting and Glazing, - -	1
Assistant with insane woman, -	1
Porter, - - - - -	1
Tailors 4, Carpenters 4, Barbers 2, - - - -	10
Sweepers 3, Soap Boiler 1, -	4
Pig keepers 2, Overseers of Oakum 4, - - - -	6
Nurses and Overseers of Apartments, - - - -	8
Cooks 6, Shoemakers 3, - -	9
Blachsmith 1, marking Clothing, &c. 1, - - - -	2
Bakers 3, at Barn 3, Boiling Junk 2, - - - -	8
Care of Beds 1, attendant in boys School 1, - - -	2
Wood Sawyers, - - -	4
	59
Oakum picking principally -	124
	274

Of the men employed in winter at picking oakum perhaps one third are able to perform harder labor. A large proportion, however, are sickly, broken down and inefficient—able to work one day and sick the next. On the whole, the net avails of oakum are small, averaging less than six cents per day for men's work, who are comparatively active. It must be observed that the most capable and industrious are employed as nurses and to fill various petty offices in the establishment. The inmates of an almshouse, to use the language of the Mayor, "can perform little beyond the ordinary domestic work of the House." Those whose constitutions are not broken, only come in when sick and go out again as soon as able to labor, generally to return to the haunts of intemperance and debauchery, to be again and again thrown on public or private charity.

To find employment suited to the capacity of paupers is no easy matter. Many of those who have muscular strength for labor, if not idiots, are too mentally inefficient for self direction; they cannot even work on a farm to advantage, except at the most simple operations, and if they attempt to pick oakum they spoil it. I know of no employment so suitable for such, as shovelling and wheeling gravel. The filling of the wharf will be just the job for them, when the weather will allow of out doors work, and will have a strong tendency to keep sturdy vagrants at a distance.

In *winter* the House of Industry numbers from 60 to 100 more men than in summer. The case is similar in other large almshouses as far as I have in-

formation. An unusual number have been discharged since the middle of February, reducing the population of the House near forty.

CONDITION AND EMPLOYMENT OF FEMALE ADULTS.

Insane 27, Idiots 11, - - - -	38
Aged, sick and too infirm to labor, - -	60
	98
Employed sewing and knitting, - -	20
Washing and scrubbing, - -	24
Nurses, - - - - -	7
Superintendent's domestics, -	2
Assistants in clothing store room,	2
Feeble women who take care of children, - - - -	13
Care of rooms, - - -	5
Domestics in children's Asylum,	3
	76
Total,	174

At present, no employment that brings in money is provided for females. Occasionally oakum picking has been tried, but without finding it an object, worthy of pursuit, especially while we have no room appropriated for that purpose.

The labor of washing and ironing 3000 pieces weekly, making and mending clothing for 600 persons, care of numerous sickly children, about 40 ininsane and idiots, and of 60 sick and infirm, make no inconsiderable employment for females able to work at all.

The 20 to 25 women, who do the washing and

other hard work, most of whom are here with small children, probably labor as smartly as domestics in general, who are hired in families, at $1,50 per week.

Those who sew and knit are more or less infirm; some are quite aged.

I think, however, that something may be earned by females in this establishment, and that, in the proposed alteration of the main building, a room should be provided where the making of duck trowsers or other simple labor may be carried on under the eye of an efficient female overseer.

CHILDREN IN THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

In the new building called the "Children's Asyluw," are 75 boys and 37 girls, from two and a half to ten years old in the two schools. Three or four sickly and idiotic children are older. *Forty one* are too young to be in the primary school.

In winter we have no labor for the school boys except that some of the largest, have some employment in and about their building—indeed very few could be considered able to work. In warm weather, for four years past, the boys have had labor of some sort, such as picking wool, stringing beads, shelling beans for market, splitting corn husks for beds, &c. but periods often occur when no proper employment can be procured. In the summer of 1832, forty five boys, of the average age of seven years, earned several hundred dollars at picking wool, besides attending school the usual hours.

The girls are small; but few remain in the House till they are eight years old—consequently, not much

can be expected from them in the way of labor. Girls of six years old and upwards knit and sew. All the stockings for the small school are knit by these little girls.

As a general rule, the black and white adults are kept in separate rooms. It sometimes happens that white women are seen in the colored women's apartments; they go there of their own accord. Some of the whites, particularly of the dissolute class of females, have been accustomed to live with the colored population of the City, and they prefer their society here. Occasionally black and white syphilitic patients are in the same ward.

It is attempted to classify the inmates as well as the construction of the building will allow, having regard to character and habits of cleanliness and order. Those who are considered as of the best character occupy the best parts of the main house ; but all classes of white inmates except the sick and insane meet in the common dining rooms, kitchen and yards, and the better sort are too often annoyed and corrupted by the worst.

The insane of different sexes are not only kept in different rooms but in different buildings at a considerable distance from each other. An elderly sane man is usually employed as an assistant in the female insane rooms. This arrangement is necessary and not productive of evil.

The foreign poor supported in the House for longer or shorter periods of time, during the last year, have been more numerous than any preceding period. The expenditure for them has not been materially

augmented it is true; for they have generally remained a less time in the establishment than has been usual. About twenty have been taken out by the owners of vessels that brought them into Boston, and at least thirteen of that number have been conveyed back to the ports in Maine and the British Provinces from which they came. There are several families now in the House whose support is supposed to be chargeable to those who landed them in Boston from vessels. It is often exceedingly difficult if not impossible to ascertain how these people made their ingress into Massachusetts. Probably one half or more come by land or coasting vessels from other States.

From the appearance and character of the foreigners who have lately come into this country and found a temporary home in this Institution, there can be no doubt they were mostly paupers, vagrants or criminals in their native lands, and that "they have left their country for their country's good."

That immense numbers of paupers are shipped from Great Britain to the neighboring British Provinces is a well known fact, and it is almost equally certain that a large proportion of these are *forwarded* into the United States. Boston, renowned for its public and private charities, probably receives an undue share.

Respectfully submitted.

ARTEMAS SIMONDS, *Superintendent.*

House of Industry, March 9, 1835.

Statistics of the Boston House of Industry or Almshouse, for the Year 1834.

Number of Inmates, December, 31, 1833,			532
Admissions and re-admissions in 1834,			979
Births,	" "		32
			1543
Discharges,	" "	653	
Desertions,	" "	96	
Indented—36 boys, 18 girls,	" "	54	
Died—57 men, 44 women, 29 children,		130	933
Remaining in the House, December 31, 1834,			610

Namely—263 men, 101 boys, 186 women, 60 girls.
All over twelve years of age, are considered adults.
Average number of Inmates for the whole year, 548.
Greatest number at one time was, December 30th, 611.
Least number, June 15th, 475.

Thirteen hundred and eighty-three different individuals have been Inmates in 1834, for longer or shorter periods of time, (some of whom were out and in several times,) while only *two hundred and thirty-seven* have remained steadily in the House the whole year.

AGES.

Under one year,	74
From 1 to 6 years,	152
" 6 to 12 "	152
" 12 to 20 "	59
" 20 to 30 "	227
" 30 to 40 "	242
" 40 to 50 "	174
" 50 to 60 "	155
" 60 to 70 "	90
" 70 to 80 "	44
" 80 to 90 "	14
Total,	1383

Men, insane, 40 ; idiotic, 31 ; women, insane, 38 ; idiotic, 19 ; children, idiotic, 8.

ADULTS BORN IN

Boston,	215
Other towns in Massachusetts,	103
Maine,	40
New-Hampshire,	31
Vermont,	4
Rhode Island,	8
Connecticut,	9
New-York,	16
Other States of the Union,	16
Americans,	447
Ireland,	393
England,	62
Scotland,	19
British Provinces,	14
Germany and North of Europe,	28
France,	8
West Indies,	8
Other foreign countries,	26
Foreigners,	558
Children whose parents were born in Boston,	53
Elsewhere in the United States,	42
In Ireland,	238
In England,	25
In other foreign countries,	20
	378

Inmates of American origin, 542 ; of foreign origin, 841.

There has been, for several years, a constant dimunition of native Americans supported in the House, with more than a corresponding increase of foreigners. A large proportion of these travel into this State, by land, from the British Provinces, and from other States.

FORMER BUSINESS OR OCCUPATION OF MEN.

Traders and Clerks, ...	20
Seamen, ...	58
Mechanics, ...	94
Laborers, and those who were brought up without particular employment, ...	428
	600

ARTEMAS SIMONDS, *Superintendent.*

House of Industry, Dec. 31, 1834.

ESTIMATE FOR THE CONTEMPLATED ADDITION TO THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY, VIZ :—

70 Perch of Trench and Cellar Stone laid	*a* 3 25	$227 00
188 feet Dimension Stone laid	1	75 00
42 thousand Brick for Walls	13 00	546 00
Labor cutting way, building Flues, setting Boilers and Range, say - -		400 00
Brick for Floor Paving - - -		80 00
		$1,328 00
Lumber and Carpenter's work on Roof		$932 00
Skylights, Doors, Windows and Stairs		400 00
Dining Room Floor and Rough Floor under Paving - - - - -		188 72
Lathing and Plastering - - -		200 00
40 square of Composition for Roof -		180 00
Cistern to contain 100 Hogsheads, say		200 00
Painting	"	50 00
Lead, &c. - - - - -		75 00
Lumber for Partition, &c. in the main House, the labor to be done by the subjects, say - - - - -		150 00
		$3,703 72
Estimate for a Sea Wall $1,000 to $1200, say - - - - - -		1,200 00

The above estimates are exclusive of the labor of the subjects, such as making Windows and Doors, Digging for Cistern and Cellar, making Mortar and tending Masons, their labor may be estimated at $1,000 or $1,200.

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CITY OF BOSTON.

Common Council, No. 14....1835.

In Common Council, May 14, 1835.

The following Report and the Resolve accompanying it, submitted by Mr. Bailey, were read, unanimously adopted, and ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest, RICHARD G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

The Standing Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation, who were instructed to ascertain "the number of persons that have been sentenced to the House of Industry, by the Justices of the Police Court, as convicted Crim-

inals, since March, 1834; and, also, to state their opinion as to the effect such commitments have upon the character and purposes of said institution," respectfully ask leave to

REPORT.

By an Act of the Legislature "Concerning the House of Industry in the City of Boston," which was passed February 3d, 1823, the Justices of the Police Court are authorised and empowered to commit all such persons to the House of *Industry*, as might be committed to the House of *Correction*, according to the provisions of the Act, passed March 26th, 1788,—commonly called the "Vagabond Act." And, by a more recent Statute, passed March 29th, 1834, the Justices of the Police Court are authorised to commit to the House of Indutry or the House of Correction, at their option, "all rogues and vagabonds, and all idle persons going about begging, or persons using any subtle craft, juggling, or unlawful games or plays, common pipers, fiddlers, runaways, stubborn children, common drunkards, common nightwalkers, pilferers, wanton and lascivious persons, in speech, conduct, or behavior, common railers or brawlers, such as neglect their callings or employments, mispend what they earn, and do not provide for themselves, or for the support of their families."

It appears, therefore, that the Justices of the Police Court have been vested with the power of ordering commitments to the House of Industry for more than twelve years; although this power has not been exercised until quite recently. The first

instance occurred June 27th, 1834; and the whole number of commitments to April 10th, 1835, was twenty-five; namely, thirteen males, and twelve females. Of these there have been committed as

Vagabonds - - - -	9
Common Drunkards - - -	11
Wanton and Lascivious Persons -	2
Night-Walker - - - -	1
Pilferer - - - - -	1
Beggar - - - - -	1

Only ten of these individuals remained in the House, April 11th, 1835. Three were discharged by the Directors, before they completed the terms for which they were severally sentenced;—eight escaped;—two were delivered to the Overseers of the Poor in other towns, to which they belonged;—and two were discharged at the expiration of their respective terms.

Your Committee have not supposed themselves called upon or authorised, to inquire into the reasons, which have induced the Justices of the Police Court to adopt the novel practice of sending convicted criminals to the House of Industry, rather than to the House of Correction. This matter has been left in their hands by the laws of the Commonwealth; and it cannot be doubted that they have been guided by a sound discretion in their decisions.

It must be admitted, however, that, in general, the previous characters and habits, and the offences of the persons committed, would seem to point them out as fit subjects for the House of Correction. The first convict sent to the House of Industry, is, by his

own confession, a confirmed rogue. He has been an inmate of *two* State prisons, and of various jails. He was discharged by the Directors, before the expiration of the term for which he was committed, upon the condition that he would immediately leave the State ; and, in ten days, he was sent back for a second term by the Police Court.

The House of Industry is a substitute for the Alms-House ; it is the *old* Institution with a *new* name ; and as there is but little *industry* there, a more appropriate name might have been chosen. It is strictly a *charitable* establishment for the relief of the suffering poor. There seems, therefore, to be a gross impropriety in converting it into a place of punishment, unless we are prepared to say, that poverty is itself a crime ! A worthy and honest but unfortunate man, driven by biting penury, humbly asks admission to this asylum, supported at the public expense, and is received ; and so also is received, at the same time, by a mandate from a Court of Justice, the hardened offender, convicted of many crimes, who has thoroughly learned the trade of guilt in jails and penitentiaries !

In a former communication, your Committee urged the importance of making a more marked distinction between the *unfortunate* and *vicious* poor, than the present arrangements of the house will permit. This consideration carries with it another grave argument, against the practice of sending convicts there. The virtuous and deserving poor are not only compelled, either to starve, or to be fed by an institutution which has lost, in a degree, its eleemo-

synary character ; but also to associate, in their daily walk and conversation, with hardened criminals. The immoral influence of such an association, must be injurious to the character of the institution.

Besides, it may well be doubted, whether the convicts themselves will generally regard it as a punishment for their offences, to be *committed* to an Institution, which professes to be an asylum for the unfortunate, and to which most of its inmates have resorted voluntarily.

Again. By the statutes of the Commonwealth, the Directors are authorised to dismiss any inmate from the House of Industry, whenever they think it expedient or proper to do so. They have, accordingly, in the exercise of this power, discharged several of the convicts, before the terms expired for which they were committed. As the authority of the Directors thus clashes with that of the Court, the purposes of the latter, must not unfrequently be defeated, and the ends of justice lost. It has been the practice of the Directors, to expel impostors and refractory subjects from the House, on the ground that such persons are not proper objects of charity ; and this has been regarded as the best kind of punishment. Mark the inconsistency. The Justices of the Police Court send a sturdy vagabond *to* the House of Industry, as a punishment ; and the Directors, in the judicious exercise of their authority, send the same sturdy vagabond *from* the House, and that too, as a punishment !

Finally ; the Directors have not the means necessary to prevent the prisoners from escaping, should

they be dissatisfied with their fare and accommodations. It is not surprising, therefore, that one third of the number committed, have effected their escape. One female, committed for lascivious conduct, who has been many times in the House of Correction, has eloped twice, and been returned to the Institution by the Court, for the third time. A man, eighty years old, who seemed to be very infirm and decrepit, effected his escape over the stockade, leaving his crutches behind him, in a short time after his commitment. It is evident, therefore, that the House of Industry is not a place of punishment for those convicts, who do not choose to stay there.

From the view of the subject which your Committee have taken, they are fully of the opinion, that the practice of committing criminals to the House of Industry, is injurious to that Institution, inexpedient in other respects, and ought to be discontinued. They respectfully ask leave, therefore, to submit the accompanying Resolution to the consideration of the Council.

In behalf of the Committee,

E. BAILEY.

Resolved, That the practice of committing convicted criminals to the House of Industry, is inconsistent with the purposes for which that Institution was established, tends to diminish its usefulness, and ought to be discontinued.

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Common Council, No. 14....1837.

CITY OF BOSTON.



In Common Council, Aug. 31, 1837.

The following statement of Receipts and Expenditures was read, and referred in concurrence to the Standing Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation, on the part of this Board, and ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest,

RICHARD G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

A statement of Receipts and Expenditures on account of the House of Reformation, from April 1st, 1836, to April 1st, 1837.

EXPENDITURES.

For Provisions.

Bread,	26,755 lbs.	1073	46	
Beef,	8,455 lbs.	359	57	
Molasses,	926 gallons	397	01	
Tea,	375 lbs.	125	48	
Flour,	25 bbls.	278	26	
Rice,	3544 lbs.	156	16	
Milk,	556 gallons	123	20	
Indian Meal,	74 bushels	89	42	
Meat for family use,		68	43	
Butter,	256 lbs.	64	89	
Sugar,	405 lbs.	50	81	
Fish,	5 quintals	18	75	
Beans,	7 bushels	16	38	
Vinegar,	99 gallons	13	22	
Bread for family use,		45	80	
Pork	1 barrel	28	00	
Sundries,		290	08	—3198 92

For Clothing,

Shoes and Boots,	435 pair	389	34	
Sattinet,	353 yards	328	34	
Rouen Cassimere,	229¾ yards	41	35	
Thread, Needles, Combs, &c.		39	29	
Sheeting,	305 yards	27	50	
Yarn,	23 lbs.	20	71	
Denims,	56½ yds.	10	74	
Scarlet Cravats,	2 10-12 doz.	9	67	
Amount carried forward,				3198 92

Amount brought forward,				3198 92
Col'd Cambric,	63½ yards	6 35		
Bombazett,	1 piece	4 50		
Crash	23¼ yards	2 09		
Buttons,	12 gro.	5 97		
Calico and Linen,	14 yards	5 18	——	891 03
	For Fuel and Light.			
Coal,	38 tons 8 chaldrons	523 50		
Wood,	16 cords	133 63		
Oil,	62 gallons	61 70	——	718 83
	For House Furniture.			
Brushes, Mats, Tin & Wooden Ware, &c.		37 09		
Looking Glasses,		5 70		
Knives and Forks,		5 50		
Chairs,		5 00		
Trunk,		1 75	——	55 04
	For Salaries.			
Francis C. Whiston,	1 year	1000 00		
George T. Haskins,	2½ mo.	104 16		
John Stimpson,	1 year	350 00		
Brown Emerson	6⅓ mo.	263 89		
Elizabeth Groves,	9 mo.	150 00		
Mary E. Parker,	12 1-6 mo.	156 25		
Henry Faxon,	1 year.	75 00		
Edward Fury,	3 3-5 mo.	49 50		
John R. Woods,	2 mo.	38 40		
Joseph B. Rochfort,	7½ mo.	135 00		
Samuel Kettell,	1 mo.	23 39		
David Coggin,	3⅔ mo.	154 81	——	2500 40
Amount carried forward,				7364 22

Amount brought forward,			7364 22
For Miscellaneous Expenditures.			
Coach Hire for the Directors,	197 25		
Allowance to Superintendent, on account of his family,	145 80		
Expenditure on the Garden,	97 22		
Soap	95 10		
Stage fare, Advertising, Lumber, &c.	70 88		
Office expenses and Furniture,	136 82		
Board, &c., of Charles Hubbard,	106 07		
Doctor's Bill,	21 00		
Retaking Runaways,	29 00		
Stationary, Binding, &c.	46 01		
Silk Worms,	9 58		
House Sand,	6 72		
Newspapers, 2 years,	37 25		
Repairs, Carting, Labor, &c.	108 74		—1107 44
For furnishing the New House.			
Ticking,	93 25		
Carpeting, $365 99 Painted Carpet, 66 88	432 87		
Hearth Rugs and Bocking,	22 00		
Plated Ware, Knives and Forks,	88 37		
Palm Leaves, for Beds,	63 26		
Sheeting,	134 73		
Duck,	67 00		
Earthen Ware,	104 81		
Blankets,	112 50		
Bedsteads,	253 00		
Chairs and Tables,	248 83		
Amount carried forward,			8471 66

Amount brought forward,			8471 66
Check,	81 22		
Crash,	8 80		
Table Cloths,	3 50		
Bed Sackings,	7 84		
Writing Desk,	20 00		
Linen Damask,	12 00		
Cast Iron Bowls,	3 38		
Sundries,	10 10	—1767 46	
For Provisions, (omitted.)			
Flour, 5 barrels		60 00	
Total Expenditures,		$10,299 12	

RECEIPTS.

By drafts on the City Auditor,	$10,877 01	
Cash received of the Superintendent for boys' labor,	1,112 45	
Sales of Grass,	55 00	
" other articles	59 02	
Total Receipts,	$12,103 48	

Dr. City of Boston in account with Directors of House of Reformation.

To amount of the foregoing statement of expeditures,		10,299	12	By balance old account,	121 52
Bills of the old year laid over,		577	89	Amount of the foregoing statement of receipts,	12,103 48
Balance,					
Cash in Treasury,	1,292	99			
" " Office,	55	00			
	$12,225	00			$12,225 00

Errors Excepted,

Boston, July 12th, 1837.

SAMUEL KETTELL, *Clerk.*

At a meeting of the Directors of the House of Reformation, August 14th, 1837,

Voted, That the foregoing Annual Statement of the receipts and Expenditures of the House of Reformation, for the last financial year, be signed by the Committee on Accounts, and forwarded to the City Council.

S. KETTELL, *Clerk.*

Examined,

H. F. BAKER, } *Committee on*
JAS. C. WILD, } *Accounts.*

In the Board of Aldermen, Aug. 21, 1837.

Referred to the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation, with such as the Common Council may join.

Sent down for concurrence.

SAML. A. ELIOT, *Mayor.*

In Common Council, Aug. 31, 1837.

Read, and the Standing Committee on said Houses on the part of the Common Council are joined.

PH. MARETT, *President.*

Rowland Ellis
Rev. Samuel Ellis
(1900)

City Document.—No. 32.

CITY OF BOSTON.

HOUSES OF INDUSTRY, CORRECTION, AND REFORMATION.

In Common Council, December 27, 1838.

Mr. Grant submitted the following Report, which was read and accepted, and ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest, RICHARD G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

ANNUAL REPORT

To the Common Council, of the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation.

In discharge of the duty assigned them, your Committee have several times during the year visited the Institutions at South Boston, and given such attention to the whole subject as its importance claims.

The Committee have pleasure in stating that the health, cleanliness, discipline and general character of the Institutions, are found satisfactory, and such as lead to the conclusion that they are well managed.

Your Committee present to the Council, the statistics of the number in each Institution, as ascertained at their last visit and examination on the 21st instant, with a few remarks.

The House of Industry has 593 subjects, viz. 226 men, 155 women, 138 boys and 76 girls, which includes 35 insane and 24 idiots. The number of children is larger than usual, while the proportion of adults is smaller.

About sixty, mostly children, have been afflicted with that difficult disease to manage, so common in all similar institutions, the Ophthalmy.

The City Council having authorized the removal of such patients, a building was obtained some months since as a temporary Infirmary, and all thus afflicted were removed, and others have since been placed there. Several have been discharged as entirely cured, others are much relieved, and nearly one half might be returned to the establishment at once, did

not the prevalence of the measles there, render it inexpedient at present. A confident hope is entertained that this disease will in a short time be eradicated. Effective measures have been taken to improve the ventilation of the rooms in the Boylston Asylum, which contains the children of the establishment. This place is peculiarly interesting and useful,—the children are well provided for, and properly instructed, and at suitable ages bound out.

The Directors state, that from a failure of the crops the last summer, and the unusually large number of paupers on support, they may have to apply for an additional appropriation before the close of the financial year.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

This Institution retains its high reputation of past years, and is fully answering the design of its establishment. The interesting report which this Council received a few months since, (made by the Inspectors of Prisons,) presents a just and very favorable view of all its parts, and is worthy the attention of those who wish to know more of its true character.

There is a School for the junior prisoners, kept by the Clerk, two hours each day. A Sunday School has existed for nearly a year, of which the Superintendent of the Institution remarks, "that he thinks it has had a very good effect, and that several when discharged, have had places obtained for them, and are now doing well."

When the resident Chaplain shall have been ap-

pointed, agreeable to a recent vote of the City Government, it would seem as though all had been done for these unfortunate persons that duty calls for. That it will make a greater change in the habits and feelings of the place than any thing else, and if a proper person be obtained, (by his influence) prevent many from returning again to become its inmates, cannot be doubted.

The Superintendent represents that an enlargement of the Male Department is already wanted, as there are only 180 cells for the confinement of over 200 prisoners, without including the lunatics who are not kept in the main prison.

It is also stated, that the Male Workshop, for the use of the tailors, shoemakers, and foundry, is wholly inadequate for the institution. A new one can be erected at but small expense, as the labor can be mainly done by the prisoners.

It is worthy of remark, in reference to this institution, that the earnings of the establishment will, in ordinary times, quite, or nearly, meet its expenses. The number of inmates is 365, viz: 225 males, 140 females;—211 are foreigners, 176 common drunkards and vagabonds. The present number of insane and idiots in the Houses of Industry and Correction is 82. By the liberality of the City Government, a building for their better accommodation is being built, and will be finished early the next season. It is thought that this much needed Asylum for the most unfortunate of all human beings, will give great satisfaction, and complete all the buildings required by the City for the relief of those who are unable to do for themselves.

In considering the large number of persons who become inmates of the Houses of Correction and Industry, with the great amount of time and money required for their support, the mind cannot but be impressed with the facts that both Superintendents are of opinion, that *more* than three-fourths of it originates in habits of intemperance.

These important and useful Institutions ever have received, and doubtless ever will, the care and attention of the City Government. They are of great importance to the peace and comfort of the whole community, yet who cannot but hope for a state of society when their necessity will be greatly diminished. In all these Institutions religious services are had on the Sabbath.

HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

This Institution having regard to the reformation of "Juvenile Delinquents," is one of paramount importance, and claims the particular attention of the City Government. Unlike any other Institution established by the City, it aims at saving the young from becoming actual criminals, or paupers, by training them up to habits of industry and piety. Liberal provision has been made for its accommodation by erecting a spacious building with gardens, work shops and every convenience that can be desired.

The number of inmates has greatly diminished by indenting an unusual number for the past year, while on the other hand but little has been done to supply their places by sending those boys there who are the

proper subjects of the Institution, who are idlers, vagrants and often criminals about our wharves and streets, and unless early rescued will become inmates of our prisons. The building was erected at an expense of over $40,000—the City Council appropriate $10,000 annually, and it becomes a serious question whether, in view of its number, it is doing all the good that so large a sum claims from it. The chief employments are manufacturing brass nails, and domestic occupations. About 500,000 nails are manufactured every week. Twenty boys are thus employed, and earn for the Institution 75 cents per week each, or in all about $800 per annum. In summer from 12 to 20 boys are employed in gardening. The girls are always occupied in sewing, cooking and house work. The largest number that have been in the Institution the past year, at any one time has been 97 boys and 26 girls, - - - 123
The least number at any one time (our present number) is 69 boys and 19 girls, - - 88

Making a reduction in number of - - - 35

During the past year there have been apprenticed 32 boys and 10 girls, making - - 42
Of age and discharged, 20 boys and 7 girls, 27
Escaped, - - - - - - - - 1
Died, 1 boy and 1 girl, - - - - 2

The whole number departed, - - - 72

On the first day of January, 1838, there were in the House, 85 boys and 26 girls, - - 111

There have been since admitted, 30 boys and 13 girls, - - - - - - -	43
Returned to the House, 6 boys, - - -	6
The whole number the past year, - -	160
From which number, viz. - - - -	160
Subtract the number departed, viz. - -	72
And it leaves - - - - - - -	88
The number now in the House, viz. 69 boys and 19 girls. Total, - - - -	88

The children are not very forward in their studies. The average extent of their knowledge does not much exceed that of the higher classes in our primary schools, nor can it be expected of many boys who are sent there, who had become truants in the City, and thus neglected the opportunity of gaining knowledge as well as violated the laws. During the year Mr. F. C. Whiston having resigned as Superintendent of this Institution, the Rev. G. F. Haskins has entered on the duties of the place, with a deep interest in its prosperity, and much promise of success in its object.

MOSES GRANT,

Chairman of the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation.

December 27, 1838.

X 351.34

City Document.—No. 28.

CITY OF BOSTON.

HOUSES OF INDUSTRY, CORRECTION AND REFORMATION.

In Common Council, December 26, 1839.

Mr. Grant, from the Standing Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, submitted the following Report, the reading of which was dispensed with, and ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest, R. G. Wait, *Clerk C. C.*

ANNUAL REPORT

To the Common Council, of the Committee of the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation.

As has been customary, at the close of each year, the Standing Committee present a few remarks on the institutions it has been their duty to visit and examine, by the appointment of the Common Council.

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

This institution for the accommodation of the poor and unfortunate, contains a great variety of persons, who, from age, infirmity, and often from habits of intemperance, are unable to support themselves, and thus become the inmates of this asylum, provided for those who have no other resort for subsistence.

This may be called a world in miniature, for we may here see, and at all times, human beings of all nations, and of all descriptions and ages, from tender infancy, to decrepit age, and not unfrequently those, who sprang from families once respectable, comfortable, and even opulent.

The whole number of inmates, on the 10th of December, exceeded that of the same month in the preceding year; and, judging from a consideration of the state of the times, and the constant applications for admission, the Directors anticipate an unusually large aggregate for the winter, and fear that the appropriation of $22,000 will not be sufficient to meet the expenses of the financial year.

The general health of the inmates has been better than usual. The disease of the eyes has been less prevalent, than in former years, and its attacks have been marked with less severity.

The mortality has been less than an average with the five years immediately preceding, and many who have been numbered among the dead, entered the institution in the last stages of fatal disease. Ten or twelve cases of small pox have occurred in different parts of the house, but every precaution has been used, by a general vaccination. Various improvements have been made, at small expense, in the arrangement of the house,—by opening the wards for the sick and infirm, making a spacious room for oakum pickers, and extending the dining room,—so that the inmates are more conveniently accommodated.

The farm and garden have been well managed, and preparations have been commenced to secure an increased productiveness of the land attached to the institution, which, from the diminished quantity, is rendered very important.

Capt. Daniel Chandler entered upon the duties of Superintendent on the first of April last, and he has devoted himself with much interest and success to the good of the institution. A very general state of contentment and comfort is expressed by the inmates.

A very interesting and highly important part of this establishment is the Boylston Asylum, in which are about one hundred boys, who receive daily instruction from a competent teacher, all of whom regularly attend the exercises of the Chapel. There

is, also, a Sabbath School in successful operation. These children have no connection with the adult members of the house, and enjoy every advantage for being well trained up, which the circumstances of their situation will allow; and when they arrive at the age of fourteen years, they are indented to farmers or mechanics in the country. There is, likewise, a school for girls and young children, who have all the attention, which their tender years require. So that, it is not easy to imagine, how children, situated as they are, can be rendered more comfortable and happy.

The Rev. Mr. Crowell, officiates in the Chapel on the Sabbath; and, during the week, the Rev. Mr. Sperry visits the sick, and attends funerals, as the Chaplain of the Houses of Industry and Correction.

On the whole, it is believed, that the institution is as comfortable, orderly, neat and economically managed, as it is in the power of the Directors to make it.

Statistics of the House of Industry for the year 1839.

Whole number, December 10th,				581
Men,	222	Boys, 121	Total males,	343
Women,	171	Girls, 67	Total females,	238
Whole number admitted within the year,				862
Probable number of Lunatics and Idiotic about to be removed to the new Asylum,				50

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

It is subject of deep regret, that so great a necessity exists for such an institution, in a City so highly favored as ours; where schools, churches and ministers to the poor ought to exert so salutary an influence on the community.

Nevertheless, the fact, that during the past and preceding years, there have been annually, over six hundred persons sentenced to the House of Correction, is one demanding the serious attention of all, and is highly worthy of investigation, if possible to ascertain the real cause of so much crime and misery, in order to apply a remedy.

Although the adage be old and common, it is no less true, and ought to be more regarded, "that an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure;" —what the remedy in this case should be, it is the duty of all, and more especially of the members of the City Government, to ascertain for themselves.

With these preliminary remarks, your Committee have pleasure in stating, that they have often visited the House of Correction, and have found it neat, comfortable, and satisfactory.

They fully concur with the remarks made by the Inspectors of Prisons, in their report, "That strict discipline, which, among such a class of persons, is absolutely necessary, where so many are confined within the precincts of the same penitentiary, and where so many are employed together in the same occupation, is happily preserved, without the use of corporeal punishment, or any severe infliction of

bodily suffering." "To enforce rigid discipline, and for the safe custody, and beneficial employment of the numerous convicts in the House of Correction, much depends on the character of the officers. They should be tried men, discreet, vigilant and firm;—and it is desirable that changes among them should not be frequent."

The institution is one of great importance, and ought to exert an influence beneficial to those, who become its inmates. It has the services of a devoted Chaplain, and the oversight of an energetic and capable master; both of whom, it is believed, do their best to promote the welfare of those under their care. And the Directors, we are satisfied, have done all in their power to render its operation successful.

A hospital is much wanted, and will be commenced early in the spring, the materials for which are already purchased. A work-shop for the males, equal to that for the females, is much needed, for the foundry, the shoemakers, tailors, &c., and ought to be erected early in the next season.

A very interesting Sabbath School is conducted by ladies from the City, on the morning of each Sabbath, previous to the exercises in the Chapel, the beneficial influence of which none can doubt, who have attended to the subject. It is hoped that a similar advantage will soon be enjoyed by the males, as many of them are young, and most of them have not enjoyed those moral means for improvement which they need.

Statistics of House of Correction.

Whole number of Prisoners, December 14,		303
Males, 179. Females, 124.		
Whole number committed during the year,		626
Committed for Larceny and Stealing,	109	
" " Lewdness,	54	
" " Various offences,	74	
" as Vagabonds,	44	
" " Common drunkards,	329	
" " Vagabonds, and do.	16	
Total,		626

Ages.

Under 20 years,	52	
From 20 to 30 years,	197	
" 30 to 40 "	211	
" 40 to 50 "	113	
" 50 to 60 "	41	
60 and over,	9	
Unknown,	3	
Total,		626

21 committed as insane are ready for the new hospital, whenever they can be legally removed.

The earnings of the females the present year amount to $9,000,—which, with the labor of the men, will in ordinary times, support the institution.

HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

This institution has peculiar claims on the care and attention of the City Government, its object being the reformation of children, who, from early neglect, have fallen into bad habits, and may be, even into crime. To rescue such children from their moral exposure, and place them under salutary influences, where they may receive proper instruction, in the habits of industry, and in their duty to God and man, is surely an object of vast importance.

Who, that passes our streets, wharves, and about our market houses, and other public places, can have failed to witness the number of boys, who are idlers, truants, or vagrants, committing petty crimes, corrupting other children, and who, unless soon rescued from their perilous situation are training up to become inmates of a penitentiary.

Contrast the situation of such boys with those in the House of Reformation, where they are instructed in the way they should go, and, at suitable ages, placed in the country with farmers or mechanics, and the mind cannot but be deeply impressed with the great importance of this institution to our community.

The City Government has, at all times, evinced a deep interest in this school for Juvenile Delinquents, and, in erecting the present spacious edifice, with the liberal appropriation for sustaining it, they have given substantial evidence of the view they entertain of its utility.

In the several visits made during the year, the Committee have been gratified with the cleanliness, order, health and improvement they have witnessed.

Moral and religious instruction is daily imparted. There is a Sabbath School in operation, and religious exercises are regularly attended in the Chapel on the Sabbath. Three persons are employed in daily instruction, viz. the Superintendent, his Assistant, and Matron. The school is divided into four classes, each of which is instructed four hours daily. The branches taught are reading, writing, arithmetic and geography, in which they have made commendable progress. The books chiefly used, are Emerson's Arithmetic, Worcester's and Pierpont's Readers. The hours for school occur before, and after those for labor.

About twenty-eight boys are employed in brass nail-making, their time being hired for that purpose. Other boys work on palm-leaf hats, farming, knitting, house-work and braiding, &c. Being thus taught habits of industry and prepared for usefulness, they are, at a suitable age, indented by the Directors.

Many of the boys are of age and stature, sufficient to be at trades, or with farmers, as soon as suitable places can be obtained, to which, no doubt, the Directors will promptly attend.

The female department of this institution has become reduced to the number of thirteen, which does not appear to be sufficiently large to continue it, at so great a proportion of the whole expense; especially while we consider, not only the smallness of the number who are now committed, but also, that other provision can be made for them, at the House of Correction or of Industry. The Superintendent is of the opinion, that the influence of the females is not favorable to the improvement of the institution;

and, as the male department is crowded, the subject of recommending to discontinue receiving females, has been under consideration, by the Directors, and will probably be presented by them, for the consideration of the City Government.

The offences, for which these children were committed, are as follows, viz. Larceny and Pilfering, 58; Stubbornness, 29; Vagabonds, 18; Stealing, 18; Idle and Dissolute, 5; Runaway, 1; Common Drunkard, one boy of sixteen years old. None have escaped recently. The general health of the inmates has been good; one has died the past year. Several have been apprenticed to shoemakers, farmers, hatters, tin-plate workers, &c., and, so far as is ascertained, they are doing well. On the 5th of December, there remained 97 boys and 13 girls. Total, 110.

The Rev. G. F. Haskins continues at the head of this important institution, which is conducted (as your Committee believe) in a manner calculated to promote the high and praiseworthy object, for which it was established.

Within the enclosure, embracing the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, there are usually over one thousand persons, supported at an expense of over thirty thousand dollars annually, which at once shows the importance of the whole subject to the care and attention of the City Government.

MOSES GRANT,

Chairman of the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation.

December 26, 1839.

The following letter from the Chaplain at Bellevue, it is thought proper should accompany the foregoing Report.

To Moses Grant, *Chairman of the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction and Reformation.*

I am informed by Capt. Robbins that a report is expected from me about this time which I now address to you.

I presume nothing more is desired than a concise statement of labor performed and the apparent and probable results.

My visits have been extended daily to the Houses of Industry and Correction, Saturdays excepted, and on the Sabbath my labors have been confined to the establishment in which I have preached which has been once a month at the House of Industry and the remainder of the time at the House of Correction.

I have visited the hospitals in these establishments, conversed and prayed with and for the sick, and have endeavored to prepare their minds in the event of their recovery for usefulness in life, and in the event of a fatal termination of their sickness, for a happy death. In this part of my labor, though interesting to myself, there is nothing deserving of more particular notice.

On the Sabbath, I have spent from two to three hours in conversation with the prisoners in their cells —to become acquainted with their past history and their present feelings in order to be able to give that advice, reproof or instruction, which their cases

required. These visits have been uniformly and kindly received both in the male and female apartments; and sometimes with many tears and expressions of gratitude, reminding your Chaplain of the touching sentiment, "I was in prison and ye came unto me."

The chapel services in the House of Correction have been heard apparently with interest, solemnity and devotion. I know not that ever I preached to a more attentive people; and I feel an increasing interest in their welfare. I love to meet them in the chapel and tell them how they may be saved, and explain to them the truths of the Bible. And if I can form any just conclusions from more than twenty years experience in a very different field of labor I must conclude that the means of grace in reference to some have not been employed in vain. I would not say how many have expressed a hope of a change of views and feelings and a determination to live henceforth moral and Christian lives. Nor do I forget that in the retirement of a prison there may be such changes expressed, and resolutions of amendment formed, and with apparent sincerity which the subjects of them will leave where they are made; nevertheless there are those whose Christian experience leads me to hope they will have grace to persevere unto the end.

While I am cheered with the hope that some good is done, it is a matter of grief that so many remain hardhearted and so stupid as not to perceive that the way of transgressors is hard or the ways of wisdom pleasant.

It has been my endeavor to render to the prisoners

all that service in my power on their coming in, and during their continuance in prison, and when they go out. In this new field of labor I am sensible there is much to learn, and any advice and instruction from your Committee will be gratefully received. In conclusion I am happy to say thus far my connection with the officers of the several institutions has been very pleasant to myself.

I have the honor to be, Dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. P. SPERRY, *Chaplain.*

South Boston, December 23, 1839.

NOTE TO THE REPORT.

During the past year a spacious and comfortable hospital has been erected between the Houses of Industry and Correction for the better accommodation of the Insane and Idiotic, (about eighty in number) who are the inmates of those institutions. At the present time it is commencing operations and has received a part of the subjects intended for it.

(1900)

City Document.—No. 26.

CITY OF BOSTON.

HOUSES OF INDUSTRY, CORRECTION AND REFORMATION.

In Common Council, December 31, 1840.

The following Annual Report on the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, having been read, was ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest, R. G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, to the Common Council.

As is customary at the close of the year, your Committee present a report of the important Institutions at South Boston, which it has been their duty to visit as occasion required.

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

This Institution had 567 inmates on January 1st, 1840.

Whole number admitted during the year, 965
Remaining in the House December 23, 1840, 637
viz: Men, 223; Women, 187; Boys, 154; Girls, 73.

The average number of inmates in 1840, has exceeded that of 1839, by about twenty. Some 40 or 50 Lunatics have been in their Hospital, such as otherwise would have been in House of Industry. In June last, at one time, there were but 460 inmates, an unusually small number; but in July and August, there was an increase of 100, and all the lower part of the house has been crowded. Should the increase continue through the winter months at the usual rate, and as appearances now indicate, the population of the house will probably reach 700 before March.

The prevalence of small pox and other contagious diseases, have shown the necessity of an isolated building at some distance from the main house. The appropriation for this purpose was made so late

in the last autumn that it was found impossible to complete the erection before winter. It is understood that some progress is made in purchasing and preparing materials. Nearly thirty persons have been committed to the House of Industry as a place of confinement and punishment within the year, having been convicted in the Police Court of offences against law. The greater part of these were mothers with nursing infants, it being deemed improper to receive infants at the House of Correction. Others are supposed to have been sentenced to the House of Industry because unable to labor. Serious complaints are, however, made against the mixing among the impotent and worthy poor of such vicious characters. The subject is one claiming the attention of the City Government. The rapidly increasing population of our City, the crowded state of the House of Industry establishment, the temporary, imperfect and ill contrived nature of several of its buildings, seem to show that at no very distant day, other and more extended arrangements must be provided for the accommodation of the Poor of the City. The piece of land west of the building and garden is much needed to make the lot square and for cultivation and other purposes. Perhaps it may be for the interest of the City to purchase it, while it can be had, as the time is not far distant when it may be indispensable to extend the premises in that direction. The present building for the children is so near the line of the land in question as to be objectionable on many accounts, and therefore ought to be owned by the City. It is to be remembered that much of the land formerly connected with this house, has been set off to the Lunatic Asylum,

Houses of Correction, and Reformation, thereby greatly diminishing the land for cultivation by the increasing number of inmates of the House of Industry.

The Boylston Asylum connected with this house, is a very useful and interesting part of the establishment, from it, boys (when at 14 years of age) are indented to farmers and mechanics, and many it is hoped, will make useful citizens. Other children, of both sexes, are constantly disposed of, as opportunity offers to provide a good place for them. In this institution are two excellent schools, in which the children receive suitable instruction and have advantages of no ordinary character. When it is recollected that over 200 children are training up here, it is a great satisfaction to believe that all is done (which is practicable) for their welfare and usefulness. Regular religious services are conducted twice each Sabbath, by a devoted and faithful Chaplain; all who are in health are required to attend, unless excused by signifying to the Superintendent that they have conscientious objections.

To detail all of interest in the establishment would prolong this report too far; your Committee therefore conclude by remarking, that the neatness, order, economy and comfort apparent throughout the institution, reflect much credit on the Directors and Superintendent, affording satisfactory evidence of a faithful discharge of duty.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Whole number of male prisoners, Dec'r 8th, 1840,	188
Whole number of female prisoners, Dec'r 8th, 1840,	134
	322
Whole number committed during the year,	711

Committed for larceny and stealing 138, lewdness 80, vagrancy 48, *common drunkards* 371, common drunkards and vagabonds 12, night walkers 18, various offences 44. Ages, under 20 years, 62; from 20 to 30 years, 215; from 30 to 40 years, 227; from 40 to 50 years, 125; from 50 to 60 years, 56; from 60 and over, 16; unknown, 10—711.

A portion of the time, during the months of October and November, the number of male prisoners (exclusive of those confined in the Hospital) exceeded the number of rooms, varying from 15 to 30.

This fact shows that the male department already requires enlarging, and claims the early attention of the City Government.

The Hospital for the sick is completed, and is all that can be desired. The commodious work shop and office will soon be finished, and will afford every facility for a more profitable employment of the inmates on the opening of spring.

The Sabbath School for females continues, and it is believed with important benefit to the institution.

Now that the males will soon have a suitable room, for the same purpose, it is hoped that no time

will be lost in making arrangements for a Sabbath School in that department.

A most appalling *fact* worthy of notice in the statistics of this report is, that of 711, the whole number committed during the year, 371 were sentenced as "common drunkards," and that 277 of the whole number sentenced, were under 30 years of age. As citizens or the representatives of a highly favored City, the subject is one which demands our attention, that if possible we may ascertain and apply a remedy, which, it is believed would be found in the suppression of those notorious public nuisances, "Bar Rooms and Dram Shops."

This institution is admirably conducted and stands second to none of the kind in our country; perfect neatness and order pervades the whole, and if the inmates are not made better by it, no blame can attach to the able and devoted Superintendent, whose great aim is, the highest moral good of those under his care.

Capt. Robbins, in a report to your Committee, remarks, "We are placed in an extremely awkward and critical situation as regards *fires*, having no means whatever for extinguishing it, should one occur." When it is considered that the City has a very large amount of property invested in these important institutions, that several large buildings are *entirely* of *wood*, and that during the past year a serious loss was sustained by fire, and a still greater one threatened, it seems incredible that no better security exists, and that the Master has to express himself in such strong language. The subject demands immediate attention.

Since the Rev. E. P. Sperry ceased to officiate as

Chaplain, the Overseers have invited in succession, several persons to officiate on the Sabbath, and your Committee have often been present at the chapel. It gives them pleasure to remark on the attention paid by the inmates, and the interest they shew in these religious services.

As a selection of a suitable person for Chaplain, is a subject of great importance and not easily done, the Council will understand why a candidate has not as yet been presented for their consideration.

HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

This institution is one which claims the particular attention of the City Council, as its object is the prevention of pauperism and crime, (which are provided for by the Houses of Industry and Correction,) by receiving children who, from early neglect, bad example, and instruction in petty crime, (taught by profligate parents,) if not early rescued, would ultimately become criminals and paupers themselves. How much better to expend money in this way, than for jails, houses of correction, and similar places.

The late Chief Justice Parker remarked of this institution as follows: "How deeply does it concern the community to take these little creatures by the hand, when they shall have committed the first offence,—withdraw them from contamination and guilt,—provide the means of industry and education —soften their minds to the reception of moral and religious truth—and gradually, by gentle treatment and wholesome discipline, lure them into habits of order, truth, and honesty. Is there any greater duty in a Christian country than this? Is it not plucking brands from the burning, and saving souls from death? Is it not the cheapest and the best way of preserving the peace and tranquility of the community, and guarding the fruits of industry?"

A few months since, the able and successful Superintendent of this Institution, the Rev. George F. Haskins, resigned the situation he had so long filled with credit to himself, and acceptance to the City Council.

His successor, Mr. Silas Jones, has not been sufficiently long in his new situation to enable your Committee to express any decided opinion of his qualifications. They rely, however, with great confidence on the experience of the Directors, in enabling them to judge correctly on a question, in which the vital interest of the institution is concerned.

As the subject of the House of Reformation is one in which a deep interest is felt by all, and various questions have arisen, your Committee deem it important to present a full report of its character and operations, the better to enable the present and succeeding Council to act understandingly on so interesting a subject. They therefore give extracts from a report of the present Superintendent, showing his views of the institution.

"There are employed in nail-making usually, 20; hat-making, 10; sewing, 8; knitting, 6; domestic work, 14; monitors, 6; chair-seating, 11. When there were more inmates, more were employed at several of the above branches.

"The health of the establishment has been remarkably good; the children are very hearty at their meals, and not limited in quantity. All the inmates are required to wash their faces and hands at least three times daily, and once a week, except in the coldest season, all are required to take a bath, and whenever the bath is omitted, a thorough washing of the neck, breast, arms, and feet is required, and it is performed under the inspection of an officer of the house. Their shirts and stockings are changed once a week at least, their heads are combed daily, and all are supplied with a clean suit for Sunday.

"The following is a summary of the leading rules

and requirements of the house, as prepared and reduced to form by the present Master; they are not, however, greatly varied from those practiced upon by the former Master. The boys generally are required to rise at half-past five in the morning at this season of the year, and earlier in the Summer, say half-fast four. They are required to attend religious services by six; the next half hour is devoted to washing, combing heads, inspection, and a few moments' play. At half-past six they are required to attend breakfast, for which twenty-five minutes are allowed. At seven precisely, school commences, and continues till nine, all the boys except two or three in the kitchen, are required to be in attendance. From 9 A. M. to 12, all are required to work at their several employments, the smaller being allowed a recess at $10\frac{1}{2}$, of a few minutes, to go in the yard. Dinner is provided at $12\frac{1}{2}$, and at 1 P. M. work recommences as in the forenoon, and continues until four. From 12 to half-past 12, and from 4 to half-past 4, boys are allowed to play in the yard, under the observation of an officer. Supper commences at $4\frac{1}{2}$, and evening school at 5 P. M. and continues until 7. All boys attend this school except a few employed at domestic work. This necessarily deprives a part of school hours. The boys are all required to lodge in one large hall in single cots, under the charge of an officer, who also sleeps in the hall. Whether this is the best method of having lodgings prepared for boys of this description admits of many doubts. I will here once for all remark, that the boys are never left to themselves, and are never allowed to converse with each other except at play, and in presence of an officer.

"Every effort is made both by remarks and acts, to connect good conduct uniformly and certainly, with the reward of being favorably regarded, of being confided in, of having privileges, the hope of being selected to go to good masters, and on suitable occasions motives drawn from our religious hopes are presented. On the other hand that of transgressors are made to feel uncomfortable, and to be connected with deprivation, neglect and suffering. They soon feel themselves to be in so much trouble that they are glad to be advised. The first signs of penitence and a desire to reform are noticed and encouraged.

"The religious instruction given during the week, has already been mentioned. There is in the house a good supply of Bibles and Testaments, and they are furnished to the boys whenever desired, and are recommended to them for their reading. Chapel services are performed twice each Sunday, by the Superintendent, there is also a Bible Class, who are instructed on Sunday evenings. Peculiar sectarian views or forms are not inculcated, although the Episcopal form of worship is substantially observed, as being well calculated to arrest the attention of the boys.

"The daily school instruction is given by the Master or Superintendent, and by the first and second assistants, with the further assistance of a young woman (who is employed principally in charge of the hat braiding department) to hear a class of small boys read and spell each morning."

There were committed during the last year, as follows: for larceny 8, pilfering 1, stealing 4, idle

and dissolute 3, stubbornness 1, vagrancy 2—19, now in house 76.

The great interest the City has in all the institutions at South Boston, containing, usually, over one thousand persons, with a property which cost at least, *three hundred thousand* dollars, and so large an annual expenditure required for their maintenance, in connection with the well established fact, that intemperance is the primary or direct cause of so many men, women and children being thrown on the public for support, should claim for the establishment at all times, the particular attention of the City Council.

All which is respectfully submitted by

MOSES GRANT, *for the Committee.*

December 31, 1840.

6357.34

City Document.—No. 27.

CITY OF BOSTON.

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

In Common Council, December 23, 1841.

Mr. Grant, from the Standing Committee of the Common Council, upon the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, submitted the following Annual Report, the reading of which was dispensed with and ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest, RICHARD G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE COMMON COUNCIL,

Of the Committee on the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation.

Whatever view is taken of the Institutions, established by the City at South Boston, for the relief of the poor and unfortunate, the correction of the vicious and hardened offender, the reformation of the young and morally exposed children, or the comfort and restoration of the Insane and Idiotic; the subject is one which claims the particular attention of the City Council.

It is now sixteen years, since the removal of the inmates from the Old Alms House, in Leverett Street, to the present spacious and comfortable House of Industry at South Boston.

Whatever difference of opinion then prevailed as to the enterprise, all now agree, that it is to the forethought and perseverance of Josiah Quincy, Esq., then Mayor, that the City is indebted for the present excellent location, with a fine farm of sixty acres, purchased for the small sum of about $7,000, which is now so productive, and in such a high state of cultivation, as to be the pride of our citizens, and justly admired by all strangers who visit these institutions.

The City now have at South Boston, four spacious buildings, viz: the House of Industry, the House of Correction, the House of Reformation and the Hospital for the Insane and Idiotic; together with convenient work shops, hospitals, and suitable appen-

dages for each establishment, erected at an expense of probably $300,000, and supported at an annual cost of over $40,000, and containing on an average, *one thousand* inmates. It is believed that all suitable provision is now made for the unfortunate, which humanity and the best interests of the City required, and it only remains to keep in view a strict regard to economy and the best good of such as become inmates of these institutions, at the same time to use all suitable means to prevent an increase of the number, supported at the public charge.

With these introductory remarks your Committee proceed to notice, first

THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

Number of inmates Dec. 15th, 1840, was 623. During the year 898 have been admitted, and 598 remained Dec. 15th, 1841. The average number of the past year, has been 564, or about twenty more than the previous year. It is worthy however of remark, that this result is occasioned by the greater number in the first half of the year. During the first six months in 1841, the average number was 608, and during the last six months, only 521, while in the year 1840, the average number was greater in the last than in the first half of the year.

Small-pox and varioloid appeared in the establishment and prevailed to some extent during the winter and spring, but since the completion and opening of the new Hospital, a few months since at some distance from the main establishment, to which the existing cases were removed, it has disappeared.

Ophthalmia, the scourge of former years, though perhaps not extinct, has of late given but little

trouble. The unusual number of sick men in the house for some months rendered the occupation of a part of the new Hospital necessary, leaving the other part to be occupied by patients having infectious diseases, whenever it may become necessary. In other respects, health, order, discipline and successful farming, the Institution appears to have been conducted as in years past.

It is regretted that the government have not been able to purchase the land west of the buildings and garden. The arrangement made by the City Council in June last, connecting the Houses of Industry and Reformation has made the purchase less desirable. On account of the small number of boys committed to the House of Reformation, with other circumstances, and considering that the capacity of the building to accommodate a much greater number;—considering also that the much larger number of boys at the House of Industry had but narrow and imperfect accommodations, the City Council in June last, caused the Directors of the House of Industry to take charge of the House of Reformation, with authority to take such steps as might be necessary to unite the same with the Boylston Asylum, and to use the building for the new Institution to be called "Boylston School and House of Reformation."

It was deemed important that the boys of the Boylston School, should not be placed in contact with those committed by the courts.

It was therefore necessary to make some slight alterations in the building. The west wing which was originally intended for girls (but which had but two inmates, and these were soon indented) was easily fitted up to accommodate a much larger num-

ber of boys than were then in the House. The boys committed to the House of Reformation now thirty-six in number, occupy the west wing. Those of the Boylston School occupy the east wing, and they are kept entirely separate from each other. Each department has its Teachers and Assistants, the whole being under the general management of the Superintendent of the House of Industry and supervision of the Directors. The food and clothing for the two departments is essentially the same; the expenses of support nearly so. A closer confinement and more careful discipline of the Juvenile Offenders of course is necessary. On account of the small number of boys at the House of Reformation of sufficient strength to labor at the brass-nail-making business, that productive employment was given up, before the changes above alluded to were made. The Directors have not been able to procure satisfactory productive employment for the boys;—they are however regularly employed at making palm leaf hats, and other suitable labor. The Directors hope soon to provide more productive and appropriate employment for this class of boys, and transfer hat making and the lighter labors to the lads of the Boylston School. The condition of the latter department, is much improved by the change, and so far as may be judged from the experiment, no good reason is seen to doubt its success.

It has been a matter of doubt by former governments of the House of Reformation whether it was expedient to have a girls' department of the Institution. There was never a large number committed, and among these were always some whose influence over others was so bad, that it was seriously doubted

whether good was on the whole effected. Commitments were therefore discontinued. At the same time it is certain there are young females, who from improper moral training are not such as will be readily received into good families, and who do not deserve to be placed in the House of Correction. Your Committee think it necessary and very important, that a portion of the building lately occupied by the Boylston School be appropriated for their immediate reception.

It is believed that most of the discouragements that have attended the House of Reformation have resulted from the fact, that many of the boys and girls committed have been such as had already progressed too far in crime to be materially benefitted by the mild and parental discipline of the establishment. And while such incorrigable offenders have not been benefitted themselves, they have often injured others of better character. Hence it has happened, that such boys when indented leave their masters, and cause much trouble among other apprentices.

It is therefore hoped that those boys and girls who are advanced in crime will be committed to the House of Correction, where the dicipline and employment is better suited to their character.

It is at all times a subject of wise economy, as well as of duty to rescue from ruin the children of misfortune who are truants, idlers, vagrants, pilferers about our streets and wharves.

The present accommodation of the House of Reformation and Boylston Asylum admits of a great increase, which can be made at a small additional expense, and as it is a melancholy fact that many such

children are to be found, it becomes the duty of all good citizens and more so of the City Government, to endeavor to place them, where they may became good and useful men, instead of paupers or criminals.

The number of boys in the east wing of the building, called the Boylston Asylum, is 95, from about (8 years) to (14 years,) so that the whole number now in that building, is 131, all of whom are in good health and under excellent discipline. They now attend public worship at the House of Industry, it is hoped however that such provision will be made as to give them religious instruction better adapted to the young mind, in their own convenient chapel, so that in future, they may have no sort of intercourse with the House of Industry and its inmates, believing that by so doing, their best good will be promoted.

It is due to the devoted Directors and Superintendent of this Institution to remark, that your committee have at all times found it in good order, neat, and the inmates as comfortable as they can well be made. The farm they think is well managed, and with the faithful labors of a devoted Chaplain, the kind attentions of medical advisers, and nurses for the sick, your Committee are of opinion, that all that duty calls for, is done.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

This spacious prison, retains its high character for order, neatness and good discipline.

Since the recent erection of the Hospital and commodious work shop, the establishment may be considered as perfect of its kind, as can well be.

The Sunday School for females continues flourishing with some improvement, as it is under the care of the Chaplain, the Rev. C. Cleveland. The health of the inmates during the year has been good; though seven deaths have occured, yet it is the opinion of the Attending Physician, that all of them have died of diseases contracted previous to their commitment.

In a letter to your Committee, Capt. Robbins states that of one half of the men, "I wish it were in my power to give a more flattering account; most of them are committed at an inclement season of the year, and in a most wretched and forlorn situation, emaciated, filthy and diseased, with scarcely clothing sufficient to screen their persons from exposure. They are of that class of prisoners who are committed for six months or less, many of whom are under medical treatment during the whole time of their confinement, and all of them require much nursing and care while they remain, which time is so short that they hardly get sound in body much less in mind, previous to their discharge, at which time they must be provided with comfortable clothing at the expense of the establishment, otherwise a generous public would consider it unjust and even cruel treatment towards that unfortunate class who immediately return to former habits, dispose of their clothing to procure the means of a debauch, and are again returned to the Institution as before for a few months, again to be recruited and again to leave as before in a manner injurious to the Institution and without receiving any permanent benefit to themselves. While they remain, those who are able are employed in picking oakum, preparing fuel, labor-

ing in the garden, repairing and cleaning the buildings, &c. of the establishment."

Of the whole number 613, committed during the year it is painful to notice that 322 were sentenced as common drunkards, and this during a period of time when unusual efforts have been made in behalf of this unfortunate class. In answer to the inquiry if this class of commitments have decreased, the master replies, "you will readily perceive by comparing this with my former report, that the whole number of commitments have decreased. But I am not prepared to attribute this actual falling off entirely to the Temperance Reformation. More than usual pains have been taken to secure for those females who were willing to promise amendment of life situations in respectable families in the country; many of whom I trust are doing well for themselves, and those who are unable or unwilling to follow in the path of rectitude have not readily found their way back to the City, therefore many of them have not been returned to this prison."

The amount of labor performed by the inmates of this Institution is worthy of particular notice, being as follows:

About 45 men are employed at stone cutting by the Quincy Company, their labor amounting to about $4,300.

Eighteen men are employed under contract at brass nail making, and about twenty-five men and boys employed to stamp nails by the pound, their labors amounting to about $2,400.

About 75 females are employed in making clothing for a Southern Market, which gives them a knowledge of needle work and is also a source of

income, amounting to about $8,500. About $1,300 is received for labor from various sources. The aggregate of which amounts to over $16,500. To which may be added the amount due for support of paupers belonging to other towns within the Commonwealth of nearly $3,000. From the foregoing statement it appears that the pecuniary affairs of the Institution are in a flourishing state.

The subject of this Report having reference to crime and pauperism in a community where so much is done for their prevention, claims very serious attention. By the last annual report of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, it appears that the State pauper tax amounts to $320,000, and that of the whole number of persons (being 14,912) supported at the public expense, more than one half were made paupers by intemperance, which is the most fertile source of poverty, of disease, and of crime; it fills Alms Houses and Prisons, and creates a far greater portion of the expenses required for civil government. It gives abundant employment to our whole machinery of police, keeps our criminal courts in constant activity, furnishes abundant work for our Overseers of the Poor, and causes the necessity for most of our Charitable Societies.

If the views presented in this Report be correct, as your Committee think them to be, how important is it to the pecuniary, moral and religious interest of our beloved country, that the glorious reformation of the inebriates which has taken place during the past year should continue, till all intemperance shall cease, and with it a large portion of the poverty, crime, and taxation it causes.

MOSES GRANT, *for the Committee.*

December 23, 1841.

x6357.34

City Document.—No. 25.

CITY OF BOSTON.

HOUSES OF INDUSTRY, CORRECTION AND REFORMATION.



In Common Council, Dec. 29th, 1842.

The following Document presented by Mr. Grant, relating to the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, the reading of which was dispensed with, and the same was ordered to be printed for the use of the Council.

Attest, RICHARD G. WAIT, *Clerk C. C.*

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HOUSES OF INDUSTRY, CORRECTION AND REFORMATION.

The City having a deep interest in the several establishments at South Boston, viz. the Houses of Industry, Correction, and Reformation, from the large sums necessarily expended, for the health, comfort, and moral improvement of so large a number of human beings, as are annually sent there—the following statements of their condition may not be wholly uninteresting.

The Institutions are all of them an honor to the City, and probably not surpassed, if equalled, by any similar places in our country. While pauperism, vice, and crime exist, as they certainly must where Grog Shops, Bar Rooms, and Oyster Saloons furnish intoxicating drinks and hold out temptation to allure and decoy the passers by, paupers and criminals will be found. All experience shows, that Intemperance causes most of the poverty and crime which afflicts this City. "It fills Almshouses and Prisons and causes the far greater portion of the expenses required for Civil Government. It gives abundant employment to our whole machinery of Police, keeps our Criminal Courts in constant activity, furnishes abundant work for our Overseers of the Poor, and creates the necessity for Charitable Societies."

Visitations have been made to these Institutions, and with much pleasure. Public Worship is held on the Sabbath, in the Chapels of each House, which are well filled with attentive hearers. The day is

duly observed within the entire enclosure, and its salutary effects no doubt are felt through the labors of the week. The inmates appeared contented and every way comfortable.

On the last visit to the House of Industry, Dec. 14th, the number of inmates was as follows, viz:

Men, - - -	247	
Women, - - -	188	
	435	Adults.
Boys, - - - -	167	
Girls, - - - -	67	
	234	Children.
Total,	669	

Being 71 more than belonged to the Institution at the corresponding date last year. With a single exception there has never been so many inmates in the House, and then at a much later date in winter. The number will doubtless increase until about the first of March; and should the winter be severe, a very rowded establishment is inevitable. The greatly increased population of the City, and the lack of employment, especially for strangers, are doubtless sufficient causes for an increased pauperism.

In the last Annual Report (May last) the Directors remark: "That there has been no increase, but a small diminution of inmates during the year. This gratifying fact must doubtless be mainly ascribed to the Temperance Reform—a reform which changes poor, degraded, tattered, inebriates, into thriving, industrious, and respectable citizens—which removes

distress and desolation from the domestic fireside, and gives prosperity and happiness. Several efficient Washingtonians and public lecturers, have been inmates of the House of Industry. One of these, who was last year regarded as a hopeless pauper, states that he has obtained several thousand temperance pledges. In several instances reformed parents have claimed and received their children from the House, have gathered their scattered families, and will doubtless do well while they adhere to their present sober course of life."

"Of the inmates of the House of Industry proper, a greater proportion are sick and invalids, and less are capable of labor than formerly.

"All the females able to work, are fully employed in the necessary house work, and nursing the sick and children. The ablest men work on the farm—others, who can use their hands, pick oakum, braid hats, or have other appropriate services assigned them. For the present, the prospect is not good of obtaining much as avails of inmates' labor."

The new Hospital recently erected for the sick, and particularly for cases of contagious diseases, is a great convenience to the institution. It is in admirable order, and completes all the present wants of the establishment.

The Farm and Garden under the supervision of so able and practical an Agriculturist as the Superintendent is, has become quite productive, and with the addition made to it by the recent purchase of land on the west side, will not only be much improved in appearance, (which is already very good) but probably soon be sufficiently profitable to pay the interest on the cost of additional land. It is believed

the institution is conducted with humanity, economy, and a due regard to the happiness of the inmates; and that the community are much indebted to the Directors who devote so much time to its arduous duties.

The Rev. William Crowell continues Chaplain of the Institution, and gives satisfaction in the discharge of his duties.

BOYLSTON SCHOOL AND HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

The "experiment" by which the House of Reformation is made a part of the House of Industry and placed under the management of the same Directors, is thus far very satisfactory and successful. They are the most interesting and important of the City institutions; being of a preventive character, to save the young from ruin, and becoming confirmed paupers and criminals.

The Boylston School is taught by Mr. J. R. Farwell. He states that "they are divided into 7 classes, in Reading 7, in Orthography 3. In Arithmetic 3, and in Geography 3. Two have just commenced easy lessons in Reading. Thirty-seven attend to Writing. And the whole number 113. The boys appeared in good health, contented, and happy, and gave evidence of receiving proper care and attention. They sing well, and have made commendable progress in the elementary branches of education; and we doubt not that many of them will make useful citizens.

The present situation of the Boys in the new building separated from the contagion of Pauper in-

fluence and example is very favorable, and their removal a judicious step on the part of the City Government. Their accommodations are much better than before the removal.

"The Overseers of the Poor, as Trustees of certain funds, continue their interest in the Asylum and pay the salaries of the Teacher and of the Chaplain of the House of Industry." They have an interesting Sabbath School in their own Chapel, in which teachers from the City assist. The Boys attend public worship at the House of Industry, and every thing necessary for their physical and moral good appears to be regarded.

HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

They have visited with great pleasure this Institution, in the west wing of the same building with the Boylston Asylum, where are in confinement, by sentence of Court, 47 boys from 8 to 15 years of age. The two classes of boys are kept entirely separate from each other, having no more connexion or acquaintance than formerly.

This department is taught by Mr. William R. Lincoln, and appears to be in good order and excellent discipline; the appearance of the boys, who were in good health, gave evidence of faithful care and proper instruction. It being requested, the teacher furnished a report of the studies, employment, pro-

gress, &c. of the boys, a few extracts of which are here given.

"The boys in the school are divided into 4 classes in Reading, Spelling, Arithmetic, Geography and Grammar."

GRAMMAR.

"Twenty have studied Grammar during this year. The number at present is 8. They use Smith's Grammar. This is the first instance in which this study has been introduced into this school, that has come to our knowledge."

ARITHMETIC.

"The 1st Class use Emerson's 3d Part. They have ciphered through the 2nd Part and are now in Interest. The 2nd Class are now in Interest, Emerson's 2nd Part. The 3d Class use the same book and have advanced to Long Division. The 4th Class have been through Emerson's 1st Part, (Mental Arithmetic.")

GEOGRAPHY.

"The 1st Class have been through and are reviewing Olney's Geography. The 2nd Class have studied and reviewed about half through Field's Geography."

WRITING.

"Twenty-five can write legible large hand and 59 can write legible fine hand, who could not write at all when admitted."

EMPLOYMENT.

The average number employed during the year, in braiding Palm-leaf Hats and Sennet, - 28

The average number employed during the Summer in Gardening and Farming, - - 15

The average number employed during the Winter in covering Sennet and Palm-leaf Hats, - 5

The average number employed in domestic occupation, - - - - - - - - 4

AMOUNT OF WORK DONE.

Yards of Sennet braided, - -	16,171
Coarse Palm-leaf Hats braided, -	463⅓ doz.
Fine " " " - -	51 "
Palm-leaf and Sennet Hats covered, -	119½ "
Days' work done by boys in Garden, -	1920

CONDITION OF BOYS WHEN RECEIVED INTO THE SCHOOL.

The teacher remarks,

"Some of them have, when quite young been to school and made some progress in the common branches of education; but having for a long time played truant, or wholly neglected their school, have forgotten much which they have learned. This class of boys generally make rapid improvement in their studies and leave the institution in a short time with a good knowledge of the common branches of education, and promise to make useful and respectable citizens."

"But there are others, who never have attended school much, if any, and consequently do not know even the letters of the alphabet, and having always associated with the lowest and most vicious class of human beings, are in some instances, unable to understand common modes of expression; and generally come into the institution dirty and ragged."

"This class of boys, it is extremely difficult to

make much impression upon at first, and it takes considerable time to introduce into their minds a desire for improvement, more particularly if they are 14 or 15 years of age before they are sent into the institution. (Hence the importance of these poor, friendless and ignorant children being looked after and sent to this, or some other proper place for them.) They then look around them and see those of their own age who can read, write, &c. They are at first inclined to be discouraged. But in process of time, they become interested in their lessons and make good improvement. And I have noticed that as the desire for improvement in their lessons increases, they improve in character."

"A library of suitable books for the boys is much needed; if they have good, and interesting books, to occupy their attention, during their leisure hours, it does much towards taking their minds from those habits of life to which they have been accustomed before their commitment; and will do much towards their reformation; for we can never reform a boy, while his thoughts are continually wandering back to those scenes of vice, which if not forsaken, will lead him down to infamy and ruin. The boys have always expressed much thankfulness to those, who have bestowed books, and have read them with much eagerness and delight."

The Asylum and House of Reformation, containing together 160 boys at a very important age, many of whom have suffered from early neglect, claims the particular attention of the City Government. It is believed that both departments are doing much good in training up the young in the way they should go. Preparation is made in the building formerly occu-

pied by the Boylston boys, for the confinement and reformation of such girls as may be sentenced by Court; of which there always will be found some cases.

Both departments of the Institution for boys are under the Superintendence of Capt. Daniel Chandler, whose experience, tact and deep interest in their welfare, together with the selection of judicious assistants, and the advice of the Directors, renders the establishment very flourishing and productive of great good.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

As a place of confinement and correction, the City has a deep interest in this Institution, which is in admirable order, well conducted, perfectly neat, and under good discipline. Capt. C. Robbins, the master, manages its complicated concerns, with much skill and with satisfaction to all interested.

In relation to the Institute, he says,

"I regret to state, that, in consequence of the extreme dulness of the times, I have not been able to procure profitable employment for both departments; which will have great effect on the Financial Condition of the Institution; although every exertion has been made. The contractors in Brass Nail Foundry, have, during the last season, reduced the number em-

ployed by them. The number which they usually had was 40; it is now reduced to 14. During the last season, the Quincy Granite Railway Company have employed from 60 to 65 convicts; it is now reduced to 45. I have also been obliged, in consequence of not having cells enough in the male Prison, to place from 25 to 30 men in the passage-ways of the Prison, which is a great detriment to good order and discipline. I would therefore recommend to have the male wing of the prison extended."

The Rev. Charles Cleveland continues to officiate as Chaplain of this Institution with untiring zeal and perseverance. The following extract from a recent report of his, to the Directors, is interesting.

"Divine services have been regularly performed in the Chapel on the Sabbath." "It has been my habitual aim, to set forth, prominently, the physical evils, as well as the moral degradation and ruin, following in the train of sin, the gratification of earthly and sensual propensities. On the other hand, have pointed out the security to bodily and mental health and vigor, as also, to the true happiness of the soul, connected with a life of self-control, and self-respect, preserving 'a conscience void of offence toward God and toward men.'" "The Sabbath School continues, with usual encouragement. The prompt and faithful attention, and happy qualifications of teachers, with the preparatory measures, and co-operating counsel of the master, cannot be witnessed but with high satisfaction, and cheering hope, that so much labor given to this God-like object, with so much prayer in its behalf, will be followed by advantages, to a few at least, permanent, and glorious. Average number of pupils, in attendance 100,

in 12 classes. Those soon to be discharged wishing places as domestics, in the country, are requested to come forward. A member of the 'Female Moral Reform Society' present, notes their names—ages—and qualifications for work. Through her benevolent efforts, with those of an associate in office, many have been sent to excellent places, having opportunity to retrieve lost character—and to become useful and happy members of the community." "They are individually counseled and warned in christian faithfulness, against a return to former associates and habits —and new exposures to temptation and ruin. On leaving the office the ladies present them with a Bible, accompanied by the heavenly caution 'sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon thee.' In forty cases provided, fourteen were recommitted, five, not heard from,—one deceased—and *twenty, doing well.* From this statement of one year's experience—the ladies' hearts, nd hands in this good work, may well 'thank God and take courage.'"

"I shall give but a single extract from a letter (among many) received at the "Moral Reform" office, from females for whom places have been procured.

"When I look back, and see the awful, and wretched scenes I have passed through for the last three years, it chills my very blood within me. I look back and ask myself the cause of all this. Why has this come upon me? Why was I made so wretched and miserable? I can answer without a moment's pause—RUM! that cursed thing. I hope in God's name, I shall always abhor the sound of it, as I do at the present."

"The work shop of the Females, I have visited, in

the afternoon, of five days in the week. At the close of work a short portion of scripture is read, and prayer offered.

"*Visits in the week.* Have made 41 evening visits, from cell to cell, giving such counsel, as the respective histories, habits, and propensities, seemed to demand. Above all they have been intreated, again and again, with unceasing earnestness—to avoid the intoxicating cup. Then and not before, might they hope to become blessings to their, at present distressed families, and friends, having security from arrest and recommitment." "Of 669 commitments, 349 were for intemperance. On their discharge, the men received from the Chaplain, a card of introduction to the Secretary of the 'Washington Total Abstinence Society'—that they may sign the pledge, meet the kind sympathies and encouragements of members, and go forth into the world with new resolutions, giving practical evidence of sincerity, when at their cell doors, they had solemnly promised their Chaplain 'I will never again taste a drop.' Females on their discharge, take a card of introduction to the 'Female Moral Reform Society,' Chapel Place. There, if disposed, they may sign the pledge and secure an interest in the hearts of the Moral Reform."

In conclusion, the whole number committed the present year, shows an increase of SIXTY-FIVE; and of twenty-two more as COMMON DRUNKARDS, over the previous year. The entire number of inmates in the several Institutions is nearly one thousand two hundred; and the cost of supporting them, about fifty thousand dollars annually; exclusive of the in-

terest on the cost of buildings, about three hundred thousand dollars. Such facts shew most conclusively the importance of the Institutions and the deep interest the City Government have in the subject.

Respectfully submitted,

MOSES GRANT.

December 22, 1842.

Crimes against others or society
Men 119 Women 27
Crimes against self
Men 254 Women 266
Left with crimes
Men 33,6 per cent
Women 9.1 per cent

Table, showing the offences of those who have been committed from Dec. 8, 1841, to Dec. 2, 1842, inclusive.

MALES.

Common Drunkards,	197
Vagabonds,	46
Larcenies,	69
Lewd, Wanton and Lascivious,	11
Attempt to Steal,	1
Assault,	13
Keeping Tippling Shop,	2
Keeping Disorderly House,	1
" House of Ill Fame,	9
Cheating by False Pretence,	2
Forgery,	1
Larcenies in Shops,	5
" in Dwelling House,	20
Common and Notorious Thieves,	6
Total,	383

FEMALES.

Common Drunkards,	147
Vagabonds,	13
Lewd, Wanton, and Lascivious,	79
Common Night Walkers,	29
Larcenies,	16
Keeping House of Ill Fame,	7
Passing Counterfeit Bill,	1
Stubborn and Disobedient Child,	1

Cheating by false Pretence, - -	1
Keeping Tippling Shop, - - -	1
Total, - -	295

256 are natives of New England.
169 natives of Massachusetts.
274 natives of Ireland.
41 natives of England.

N. B. The whole number committed the previous year, 613—the present year, 678. As common Drunkards the previous year, 322—the present year, 344.

NUMBER OF TIMES COMMITTED.

Females.		Males.		
95	95	219	219	First time,
60	120	54	108	Second time,
42	126	29	87	Third time,
24	96	32	128	Fourth time,
19	95	19	95	Fifth time,
10	60	10	66	Sixth time,
10	70	1	7	Seventh time,
8	64	2	16	Eighth time,
3	27	3	27	Ninth time,
4	40	3	30	Tenth time,
20	220	11	120	Ten and over.
295	1013	383	695	Total. 2,34

766
1326
1149
1710

295) 1013 (3.43
885
1280
1180
1000

Average committals for each person
women 3. 43/100 men 2 34/100
Proportion of all committed more than on
women 6 7/8 men 52, 8

Estimate of Amount of Labor of Prisoners, from Dec. 8, 1841, to Dec. 2, 1842.

Male labor on House of Industry, - -	10 00
" " of Quincy Granite Railway Co.	4,882 13
" " of Brass Nail Foundry, -	2,114 13
" " Making Coffins, - -	147 50
Amount of Female Labor, - -	1,632 13
All other Labor of Prisoners estimated at	1,500 00
Amount received for Strawberries, -	1,004 01
" " " Garden Produce, -	52 80
Cash received from sundry towns for support of Prisoners, - - - -	2,972 28
Amount due from other sources, which is uncollected, - - - - -	321 23
	$14,636 21

The number of Males in confinement, Dec. 8, 1841, was, - - - - - - -		166
Committed since that time, to Dec. 2, 1842, - - - - - - -		383
Total,		549
Discharged during that period, by expiration of sentence, - - - -	287	
Previous, - - - - - -	49	
Died, - - - - - -	4	340
Remaining, Dec. 2, 1842, - - -		209
Number of Females in confinement, Dec. 8, 1841, was, - - - - -		120
Committed since that time, to Dec. 2, 1842, - - - - - -		295
Total,		415

Discharged during said period, by expiration of sentence,	269	
Previous,	23	
Died,	2	294
Remaining, Dec. 2, 1842,		121
Total number of Prisoners remaining, Dec. 2, 1842,		330

Table, showing the ages of those who were committed from Dec. 8, 1841, to Dec. 2, 1842.

Males.	Females.	
35	38	under 20
112	114	20 to 30
128	94	30 to 40
68	35	40 to 50
28	10	50 to 60
7	2	60 and over
5	2	Unknown.
383	295	Total.

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MAR 16